(c) It is not practicable to protect these mineral deposits spread over large area. Considering the vast resources of these mineral, the Government of India has in October 1998 notified a new policy on Beach Sand Minerals with a view to increase the rate of exploration of the minerals and also to attract more investment in this sector, both private and foreign along with latest technology for value addition within the country.

Setting up of atomic power project in Rajasthan

†2479. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey had been conducted at any place apart from Rawatbhata in Rajasthan for production of electricity from atomic power; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether on the basis of above survey, possibility of setting up atomic energy centre near Mahi Bajaj Sea in Banswada district had been expressed, if so, the progress made in this regard; and

(c) whether the possibilities of conducting any survey for setting up atomic project station at any other place in Rajasthan is also being explored?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Site Selection Committee of the Department has investigated various sites in the country and submitted its report to the Department. No decision has been taken on the new sites for setting up new neclear power projects.

(b) Site Selection Committee of the Department has investigated Mahi Bajan Sea in Banswada District in addition to Raawatbhata in Rajasthan for setting a nuclear power project.

(c) No, Sir.

Allotment of coal to brick kilns

2480. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have plans to allot coal to brick kilns all over the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.